GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6810
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2000
AGRICULTURAL GROWTH RATE
ARUN KUMAR;NAWAL KISHORE RAI;RAMJI LAL SUMAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set a target to increase the annual growth rate of agricultural production by 4.5 per cent for coming years;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have studied the annual growth rate of last decade while setting this target;

(d) if so, the annual growth rate at the end of 80's and 90's ; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to achieve annual growth rate in coming decade?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a)&(b) Yes Sir. The Ninth Five Year Plan adopted by the National DevelopmentCouncil in it's meeting held on 19th February, 1999 has targetted increase in value of agricultural output (excluding forestry) at the rate of 4.5 per cent per annum during the Ninth Five Year Plan period (1997/2002).

(c) Past growth in agricultural production is one of the variables that is studied at the time of setting the target growth rate in the Five Year Plan.

(d) In the Ninth Five Year Plan document, the target of 4.5 per cent per annumincrease in the value of agricultural output translates to 3.9 per cent annual rate of growth in Gross Value Addition in agriculture.

The decadal growth rates of Gross Value added in the last two decades are given below:-

Period	Growth rate (% per annum)
1980's	3.33
1990's (upto 1996/97)	3.14

(e) Some of the initiatives taken by the Government are:

(1) Formulation of a regionally differentiated strategy to actualize the potential of various region;

(2) Increasing the flow of credit to agriculture sector through introduction of Kisan Credit Scheme;

(3) Introduction of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme;

(4) Creation of a Watershed Development Fund, and promotion of Watershed Development on an expanded scale; and

(5) Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for Cold Storages.